

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/609,097

Examiner

John Ruggles

Applicant(s)

STANTON ET AL.

Art Unit

1756

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the 4/2/07 amendment.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 2-6, 8-11, 13, 14, 16-19, 21 and 22.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

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DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

In the current 4/2/07 amendment, claims 1, 7, 12, 15, 20, and 23-26 are now canceled, claims 2-6, 8-11, 13-14, 16-19, and 22 are currently amended, and claim 21 remains as previously presented. Therefore, only claims 2-6, 8-11, 13-14, 16-19, and 21-22 (as currently amended) remain under consideration.

The previous claim objections and rejections are withdrawn in view of (A) the current amendment and accompanying remarks, as well as in view of (B) the Examiner's amendment set forth below.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment (including the renumbering of claims as indicated in this Office action) was given in a telephone interview with Kevin Johanson on 5/10/07.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS (as currently amended):

At each of (a) claim 8 line 2 and (b) claim 9 line 2, change "diffraction rings" to --each of the diffraction rings--, at both occurrences.

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At claim 11 line 3, change “description of elements and diffraction rings around the elements” (plural diffraction rings around each element) to --descriptions of elements and a diffraction ring[[s]] around each of the elements-- (singular diffraction ring around each element).

At claim 11 line 7, change “sidelobe inhibitors including guard rings therearound” (plural guard rings around each sidelobe inhibitor) to --sidelobe inhibitors including a guard ring[[s]] ~~therearound~~ around each of the sidelobe inhibitors-- (singular guard ring around each sidelobe inhibitor).

At claim 11 lines 13-14, change “when one or more of the mathematical descriptions of the sidelobe inhibitors including guard rings therearound creates” (includes one or more mathematical descriptions and plural guard rings around each sidelobe inhibitor) to --when ~~one or more of~~ the mathematical descriptions of the sidelobe inhibitors including the guard ring[[s]] ~~therearound creates~~ around each of the sidelobe inhibitors create-- (includes only plural mathematical descriptions and only a singular guard ring around each sidelobe inhibitor).

At claim 17 lines 1-2, change “wherein a radius of the diffraction ring” to --wherein [[a]] the radius of [[the]] each diffraction ring--.

At claim 19 line 4, change “calculating diffraction rings surrounding each of a plurality of elements, the diffraction rings” to --calculating a diffraction ring[[s]] surrounding each of a plurality of elements, each of the diffraction rings--.

At claim 19 line 12, change “when one or more of the sidelobe inhibitors including guard rings therearound creates” to --when ~~one or more of~~ the sidelobe inhibitors including a guard ring[[s]] ~~therearound creates~~ around each of the sidelobe inhibitors create--.

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IN THE SPECIFICATION (as previously amended on 12/5/06):

Amend the title as follows: ~~--SIDELOBE SUPPRESSION IN RADIATED~~
PATTERNING METHODS FOR GENERATING OR DESIGNING SIDELOBE INHIBITORS
FOR RADIATION PATTERNING TOOLS--.

Amend the previous 7/10/06 version of the abstract as follows: (a) *at line 5*, change “Diffraction rings are” to ~~--Diffraction rings are~~ A diffraction ring is-- and (b) *at lines 6-7*, change “Sidelobe inhibitors are located at the intersections of diffraction rings.” to ~~--When a~~ guard ring around one of the intersections would otherwise overlap with a guard ring around another one of the intersections, a common sidelobe ~~Sidelobe~~ inhibitor[[s]] [[are]] is located at the ~~intersections of diffraction~~ common overlap region of the guard rings--.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 2-6, 8-11, 13-14, 16-19, and 21-22 are allowed.

Conclusion

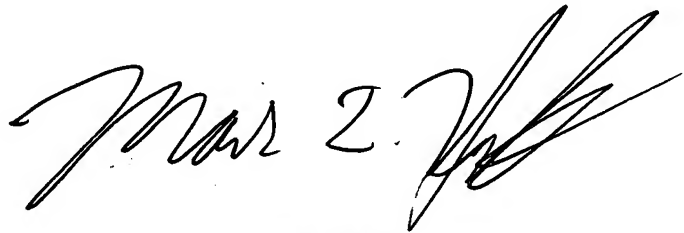
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John Ruggles whose telephone number is 571-272-1390. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday and alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner’s supervisor, Mark Huff can be reached on 571-272-1385. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

jsr

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark F. Huff", with a stylized flourish at the end.

MARK F. HUFF
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1700